REMARKS

This reply is in response to Office Communication mailed April 8, 2003. Applicants believe this response is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.111. The remarks contained in Applicants' reply submitted on February 26, 2003 are incorporated herein by reference.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw each rejection and pass the claims to allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve any issues, in order to expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin G. Sanderoock

Reg. No. 31,298 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

26633

Customer ID No. 26633 HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE LLP 1666 K Street, NW

Suite 300

Washington, DC 20006

Telephone: (202) 912-2000

Facsimile:

(202) 912-2020

Marked-Up C py of Am nded Claims

- 57. (Amended) A collection of (poly)peptides comprising a plurality of (poly)peptides according to claim <u>112-56</u>.
- 58. (Amended) A kit comprising a (poly)peptide according to claim 56112 and a suitable host cell therefor.
- 59. (Amended) A kit comprising a collection of (poly)peptides according to claim 57 and suitable host cells therefor.
- 60. (Amended) A collection of (poly)peptides according to claim 57, comprising specific (poly)peptides wherein the genes encoding said specific (poly)peptides
- (a) are either homologous, or represent consensus gene sequences derived from at least three homologous genes, and
 - (b) wherein said carry cleavage sites, each of which:
- (ba) lie at or adjacent to the ends of genetic sub-sequences which encode structural sub-elements,
- (bb) are unique within each gene sequence,
- (be) (bb) do not form compatible sites with respect to any single sub-sequence, and
 - (bd) (bc) are common to all homologous sub-sequences.
- 61. (Amended) A kit comprising a collection of (poly) peptides according to claim 60 and suitable host cells therefor.